



General Assembly

February Session, 2014

Raised Bill No. 264

LCO No. 1665



Referred to Committee on PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Introduced by:
(PD)

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE ON THE HUMANE
TREATMENT OF ANIMALS IN MUNICIPAL SHELTERS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force
2 to study the humane treatment of animals in municipal shelters. The
3 task force shall consider (1) the establishment of standards for the
4 humane treatment of animals; (2) education for animal control officers
5 on current license laws; (3) rules and regulations regarding and
6 penalties for abuse; (4) the development of a system to track persons
7 who have been convicted of animal abuse in order to prevent such
8 persons from acquiring animals from shelters in other municipalities
9 or states; (5) the establishment of standards for rescue organizations to
10 use when evaluating foster homes; (6) the establishment of rules and
11 responsibilities for volunteer groups that work with municipal shelters
12 and animal control officers; and (7) the creation of a framework to
13 coordinate the efforts of local humane organizations with volunteer
14 groups, foster groups and municipal animal shelters.
- 15 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

- 16 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;
- 17 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;
- 18 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of
19 Representatives;
- 20 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;
- 21 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of
22 Representatives; and
- 23 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate.
- 24 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1),
25 (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member
26 of the General Assembly.
- 27 (d) All appointments to the task force shall be made not later than
28 thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be
29 filled by the appointing authority.
- 30 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president
31 pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force
32 from among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall
33 schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not
34 later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.
- 35 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
36 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to local
37 governments shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.
- 38 (g) Not later than January 1, 2015, the task force shall submit a
39 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing
40 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
41 relating to local governments and the environment, in accordance with
42 the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The task force

43 shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or January 1,
44 2015, whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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Statement of Purpose:

To establish a task force to consider (1) the establishment of standards for the humane treatment of animals; (2) education for animal control officers on current license laws; (3) rules and regulations regarding and penalties for abuse; (4) the development of a system to track persons who have been convicted of animal abuse in order to prevent such persons from acquiring animals from shelters in other municipalities or states; (5) the establishment of standards for rescue organizations to use when evaluating foster homes; (6) the establishment of rules and responsibilities for volunteer groups that work with municipal shelters and animal control officers; and (7) the creation of a framework to coordinate the efforts of local humane organizations with volunteer groups, foster groups and municipal animal shelters.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]